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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/761,404	01/16/2001	Bjarne Steensgaard	MS 158288.1/40062.119US01	4797
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DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Application No. STEENSGARD, BJARNE			Applica	tion No.	Applicant(s)	- V			
## Deficiency Examiner Syed All 2127 ## The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ③ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. **SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ③ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. **If the period is reply specified above is best than this () do days, a reply within the disablery minimum of thinty (20) days will be considered timely. **If the period is reply within the set or edinded period is best than this () do days, a reply within the stablery minimum of thinty (20) days will be considered timely. **If the period is reply within the set or edinded period is best than the period and the true maining date of this communication. **If the period will be the set or edinded period and the true maining date of this communication. Period is the period of this communication. Period of the period of th									
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DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed June 30, 2004. Claims 1-51 are presented for examination.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. code not included in this office action can be found in a prior office action.

Claim Objections

- 3. Applicant states on page 13, "The terminology has been changed as suggested by the examiner and is now broader than originally submitted. Thus the substitution of this terminology as the examiner suggested does not constitute a narrowing amendment of each of these claims which would invoke the prosecution history estoppel doctrine under the recent Supreme Court and Federal Circuit Festo decisions."
- 4. The suggestion of the change in terminology from "computer process" to "computer implemented method" was intended to reflect that a "computer process" has a particular meaning in the art that was inconsistent with the apparent meaning of "computer process" in the claims as originally filed. Applicant is encouraged to use whatever terminology desired for "computer process", so long as it does not interfere with the standard meaning of a "computer process", i.e. a task that is scheduled for execution by an operating system.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. Claims 1-6, 15-26, 31-32, and 34-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jagannathan et al. (USPN 5,692,193) (hereinafter Jagannathan).

6. As per claim 1, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including a computer program product encoding a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer implemented method for managing allocation of program data in a target program between one or more thread-specific heaps and at least one shared heap, the program data including thread-specific data and shared data, the computer implemented method comprising:

analyzing the target program during code compilation to distinguish between the thread-specific data of a first program thread and the shared data (col. 10 lines 21-35; col. 21 lines 55-57);

configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data of the first program thread to a first thread-specific heap, responsive to the analyzing operation (col. 20 line 56 - col. 21 line 26); and

configuring the target program to allocate the shared data to the shared heap, responsive to the analyzing operation (col. 21 lines 27-57).

7. As per claim 2, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the analyzing operation comprises analyzing the target program to distinguish among the thread-specific data of the first

program thread, the thread-specific data of a second program thread, and the shared data (col. 20 line 56 - col. 21 line 57), and wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data of the second program thread to a second thread-specific heap, responsive to the analyzing operation (col. 20 line 56 - col. 21 line 26).

8. As per claim 3, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the analyzing operation comprises:

identifying program data in the target program as the thread-specific data of the first program thread, if the program data is not referenced by any other program thread of the target program (col. 21 lines 7-26).

9. As per claim 4, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the analyzing operation comprises:

identifying program data in the target program as the thread-specific data of the first program thread based on a thread escape analysis (col. 21 lines 38-57).

10. As per claim 5, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the target program further includes a second program thread and the analyzing operation comprises:

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identifying program data in the target program as the shared data, if the program data is referenced by the first program thread and the second program thread of the target program (col. 21 lines 27-37).

- 11. As per claim 6, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the analyzing operation occurs prior to the execution of the target program (col. 10 lines 21-35).
- 12. As per claim 15, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data occurs prior to execution of the target program (col. 14 lines 5-53).
- 13. As per claim 16, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the shared data occurs prior to execution of the target program (col. 14 lines 5-53).
- 14. As per claim 17, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 1 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

garbage collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap independently of garbage collection of the shared data in the shared heap (col. 21 lines 7-26).

15. As per claim 18, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 1 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

garbage collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap independently of garbage collection of a second thread-specific heap (col. 21 lines 7-26).

16. As per claim 19, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 1 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

garbage collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap independently of the execution of another program thread in the target program (col. 21 lines 7-26).

17. As per claim 20, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 1 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

garbage collecting the shared data from the shared heap independently of garbage collection of the thread-specific data in the first thread-specific heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

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18. As per claim 21, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 1 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

maintaining a remembered set identifying references to one or more shared data in the shared heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20); and

collecting the shared heap independently of garbage collection of the first thread-specific heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

19. As per claim 22, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

collecting a portion of the shared data from the shared heap to leave an uncollected portion of the shared data in the shared heap, the uncollected portion of the shared data including shared data that is referenced by thread-specific data of the first thread-specific heap that has not yet been scanned (col. 22 lines 12-20);

scanning the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap, responsive to the operation of collecting a portion of the shared data (col. 22 lines 12-20); and

collecting the uncollected portion of the shared data from the shared heap, responsive to the scanning operation (col. 22 lines 12-20).

20.

As per claim 23, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the

computer program product of claim 22 wherein the computer implemented method

further comprises:

collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap, responsive

to the operation of collecting a portion of the shared data (col. 21 lines 38-57).

21. As per claim 24, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the

computer program product of claim 1 wherein the shared heap is shared by a subset of the

program threads of the target program (col. 12 line 66 - col. 13 line 22), wherein the

subset of program threads includes less than all of the program threads of the target

program (col. 12 line 66 - col. 13 line 22).

22. As per claim 25, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including a

method of allocating of program data in a target program between one or more

thread-specific heaps and at least one shared heap, the program data including

thread-specific data and shared data, the method comprising:

analyzing the target program during code compilation to distinguish between the

thread-specific data of a first program thread and the shared data (col. 10 lines 21-35; col.

21 lines 55-57);

configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data of the first

program thread to a first thread-specific heap, responsive to the analyzing operation (col.

20 line 56 - col. 21 line 26); and

configuring the target program to allocate the shared data to the shared heap, responsive to the analyzing operation (col. 21 lines 27-57).

23. As per claim 26, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 25 wherein target program further includes a second program thread and the analyzing operation comprises:

identifying program data in the target program as the shared data, if the program data is referenced by the first program thread and the second program thread of the target program (col. 21 lines 27-37).

24. As per claim 31, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 25 further comprising:

collecting a portion of the shared data from the shared heap to leave an uncollected portion of the shared data in the shared heap, the uncollected portion of the shared data including shared data that is referenced by thread-specific data of the first thread-specific heap that has not yet been scanned (col. 22 lines 12-20);

scanning the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap, responsive to the operation of collecting a portion of the shared data (col. 22 lines 12-20); and

collecting the uncollected portion of the shared data from the shared heap, responsive to the scanning operation (col. 22 lines 12-20).

25. As per claim 32, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 31 further comprising:

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collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap, responsive to the operation of collecting a portion of the shared data (col. 21 lines 38-57).

26. As per claim 34, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including a compiler for managing allocation of program data of a target program between a shared heap and a thread-specific heap, the program data including thread-specific data and shared data, the compiler comprising:

a program analyzer analyzing the target program during code compilation to distinguish between the threads specific data of a first program thread and the shared data (col. 10 lines 21-35; col. 21 lines 55-57); and

a code specializer configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data of the first program thread to a first thread-specific heap (col. 20 line 56 - col. 21 line 26) and configuring the target program to allocate the shared data to the shared heap, responsive to the analyzing operation (col. 21 lines 27-57).

27. As per claim 35, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including a computer program product encoding a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer implemented method for managing memory used for program data in a target program having one or more thread-specific heaps and at least one shared heap, the program data including thread-specific data and shared data, the computer implemented method comprising:

analyzing the target program during code compilation to distinguish between the thread-specific data of a first program and the shared data (col. 10 lines 21-35; col. 21 lines 55-57);

allocating during target program code compilation thread-specific data associated with a first program thread of the target program to a first thread-specific heap, the thread-specific data being determined to be reachable only by the first thread (col. 20 line 56 - col. 21 line 26; col. 21 lines 55-57); and

allocating during target program code compilation the shared data to the shared heap, the shared data being deemed potentially reachable by a plurality of the program threads of the target program (col. 21 lines 27-57).

28. As per claim 36, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 35 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

garbage collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap independently of garbage collection of the shared data in the shared heap (col. 21 lines 7-26).

29. As per claim 37, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 35 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

garbage collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap independently of the execution of another program thread in the target program (col. 21 lines 7-26).

30. As per claim 38, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 35 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

garbage collecting the shared data from the shared heap independently of garbage collection of the thread-specific data in the first thread-specific heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

31. As per claim 39, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program of claim 35 wherein the computer implemented method further comprises:

maintaining a remembered set identifying references to one or more shared data in the shared heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20); and

collecting the shared heap independently of garbage collection of the first thread-specific heap, based on the references identified in the remembered set (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

32. As per claim 40, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including a method of managing memory used for program data in a target program having one or

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more thread-specific heaps and at least one shared heap, the program data including thread-specific data and shared data, the method comprising:

analyzing the target program during code compilation to distinguish between the thread-specific data of a first program and the shared data (col. 10 lines 21-35; col. 21 lines 55-57);

allocating thread-specific data associated with a first program thread of the target program during code compilation to a first thread-specific heap, the thread-specific data being determined to be reachable only by the first thread (col. 20 line 56 - col. 21 line 26; col. 21 lines 55-57); and

allocating the shared data to the shared heap during code compilation, the shared data being deemed potentially reachable by a plurality of the program threads of the target program (col. 21 lines 27-57).

33. As per claim 41, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 40 further comprising:

garbage collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap independently of garbage collection of the shared data in the shared heap (col. 21 lines 7-26).

34. As per claim 42, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 40 further comprising:

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garbage collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap independently of the execution of another program thread in the target program (col. 21 lines 7-26).

35. As per claim 43, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 40 further comprising:

garbage collecting the shared data from the shared heap independently of garbage collection of the thread-specific data in the first thread-specific heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

36. As per claim 44, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 40 further comprising:

maintaining a remembered set identifying, references to one or more shared data in the shared heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20); and

collecting the shared heap independently of garbage collection of the first thread-specific heap, based on the remembered set (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

37. As per claim 45, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 40 further comprising:

collecting a portion of the shared data from the shared heap to leave an uncollected portion of the shared data in the shared heap, the uncollected portion of the shared data including shared data that is referenced by thread-specific data of the first thread-specific heap that has not yet been scanned (col. 22 lines 12-20);

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scanning the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap, responsive to the operation of collecting a portion of the shared data (col. 22 lines 12-20); and

collecting the uncollected portion of the shared data from the shared heap, responsive to the scanning operation (col. 22 lines 12-20).

38. As per claim 46, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 45 further comprising:

collecting the thread-specific data from the first thread-specific heap, responsive to the operation of collecting a portion of the shared data (col. 21 lines 38-57).

39. As per claim 47, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including a memory manager for managing heap memory in a computer system, the heap memory being used to store program data, the program data including thread-specific data and shared data, the memory manager comprising:

a program analyzer analyzing the target program during code compilation to distinguish between the thread-specific data of a first program and the shared data (col. 10 lines 21-35; col. 21 lines 55-57); and

an allocation module allocating thread-specific data associated with the first program thread of the target program to a first thread-specific heap, the thread-specific data being determined to be reachable only by the first thread (col. 20 line 56 - col. 21 line 26), and allocating the shared data to the shared heap, the shared data being deemed potentially reachable by a plurality of the program threads of the target program (col. 21 lines 27-57).

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40. As per claim 48, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the

memory manager of claim 47 further comprising:

a garbage collector reclaiming memory associated with the thread-specific data

from the first thread-specific heap independently of garbage collection of the shared data

in the shared heap (col. 21 lines 7-26).

41. As per claim 49, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the

memory manager of claim 47 further comprising:

a garbage collector reclaiming memory associated with the thread-specific data

from the first thread-specific heap independently of the execution of another program

thread in the target program (col. 21 lines 7-26).

42. As per claim 50, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the

memory manager of claim 47 further comprising:

a garbage collector reclaiming memory associated with the shared data from the

shared heap independently of garbage collection of the thread-specific data in the first

thread-specific heap (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

43. As per claim 51, Jagannathan teaches the invention as claimed, including the

memory manager of claim 47 wherein the memory manager maintains a remembered set

identifying references to one or more shared data in the shared heap (col. 21 line 66 - col.

22 line 20) and further comprising:

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a garbage collector reclaiming memory associated with the shared heap independently of garbage collection of the first thread-specific heap, based on the remembered set (col. 21 line 66 - col. 22 line 20).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- Claims 7-14, 27-30, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jagannathan in view of Benayon et al. (USPN 5,809,554) (hereinafter Benayon).
- 45. As per claim 7, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Jagannathan:

the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data comprises:

replacing an original allocation instruction in the target program with a new instruction that allocates the thread-specific data of the first program thread to the first thread-specific heap associated with the first program thread (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

46. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Jagannathan and Benayon since dynamic changes in an execution context may require different allocation parameters depending on current conditions. Jagannathan is limited in this respect since the programming environment disclosed, Sting, is built on top of a sequential programming language, Scheme, that compiles and executes without modification (col. 10 lines 21-35). Although source level modifications to code cannot

be made, Benayon provides a way of transparently modifying the allocation parameters of a thread such that heap allocation can be controlled if a user desires. After the resources are allocated for a specific thread, the allocation parameters return to the default. This achieves the claimed result of providing control over allocating data to the thread-specific heap or shared heap in a manner that maintains the integrity of the original source code.

47. As per claim 8, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data comprises:

leaving an original allocation instruction in the target program to allocate the thread-specific data of the first program thread to the first thread-specific heap associated with the first program thread (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

48. As per claim 9, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the shared data comprises:

leaving an original allocation instruction in the target program to allocate the shared data to the shared heap (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

49. As per claim 10, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the shared data comprises:

replacing an original allocation instruction in the target program with a new instruction that allocates the shared data to the shared heap (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

50. As per claim 11, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data comprises:

configuring an allocation parameter associated with the thread-specific data indicating that the thread-specific data of the first program thread is to be allocated in the one of the thread-specific heaps (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

51. As per claim 12, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data further comprises:

allocating the thread-specific data of the first program thread to the first thread-specific heap associated with the first program thread, responsive to an allocation parameter (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

52. As per claim 13, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 1 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the shared data comprises:

configuring an allocation parameter associated with the shared data indicating that the shared data is to be allocated in the shared heap (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

53. As per claim 14, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer program product of claim 13 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the shared data further comprises:

allocating the shared data to the shared heap, responsive to the allocation parameter (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

54. As per claim 27, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 25 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data comprises:

replacing an original allocation instruction in the target program with a new instruction that allocates the thread-specific data of the first program thread to the first thread-specific heap associated with the first program thread (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

55. As per claim 28, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 25 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data comprises:

leaving an original allocation instruction in the target program to allocate the thread-specific data of the first program thread to the first thread-specific heap associated with the first program thread (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

As per claim 29, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 25 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the shared data comprises:

replacing an original allocation instruction in the target program with a new instruction that allocates the shared data to the shared heap (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

As per claim 30, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 25 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the shared data comprises:

leaving an original allocation instruction in the target program to allocate the shared data to the shared heap (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

58. As per claim 33, Benayon teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 25 wherein the operation of configuring the target program to allocate the thread-specific data comprises:

configuring an allocation parameter associated with the thread-specific data indicating that the thread-specific data of the first program thread is to be allocated in the first thread-specific heap (col. 2 lines 53-58; col. 9 line 25 - col. 10 line 29).

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Response to Arguments

59. Applicant's arguments filed June 30, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

60. Applicant argues on page 14 that Jagannathan "teaches identification of threads and associated heaps, both local and global, as shown in Fig. 5, at run time, not during program compilation in advance of execution, or running, of a program. There is no disclosure or suggestion in this patent of performing thread specific and shared data

analysis and allocations prior to running the target program as applicant now claims."

- 61. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Jagannathan specifically states that identification of shared and local heaps can be analyzed and allocated at compile time (col. 21 lines 55-57, "Those objects that are shared among threads often are easily detected either via language abstractions or by compile-time analysis").
- 62. Applicant argues on page 14, "Benayon et al does not teach identification of thread specific objects and allocation of such objects to thread specific heaps during compilation."
- 63. It is acknowledged that Benayon does not specifically address identifying thread specific objects and allocation to thread specific heaps during compilation. This step is taught by Jagannathan, as discussed above in reference to paragraph 61.

Conclusion

64. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Syed J Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-3769. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8-5:30, 2nd Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai T An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Syed Ali

August 27, 2004

MENG-AL T. AN

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100